



Water Forum Agreement

Progress on the Seven Elements – A Review
2000 – 2005

The Water Forum is a diverse group of business and agricultural leaders, citizens groups, environmentalists, water managers, and local governments in the Sacramento region that have joined to fulfill two co-equal objectives:

- ◆ Provide a reliable and safe water supply for the region's economic health and planned development to the year 2030; and
- ◆ Preserve the fishery, wildlife, recreational, and aesthetic values of the lower American River.

After six years of intense interest-based negotiation, in 1999 Water Forum members approved a comprehensive Water Forum Agreement (WFA). The Agreement consists of integrated actions necessary to providing a regional solution to water shortages, environmental damage, groundwater contamination and limited economic prosperity

The WFA requires the Water Forum Successor Effort (WFSE) to conduct a comprehensive and "transpar-

ent" review and evaluation of progress at the end of the first five years of implementing the Agreement.

Several tiers of review were undertaken to accomplish this evaluation. Every stakeholder was asked to complete a survey during March and April of 2005. Then, Water Forum staff talked directly to the coordinating committee and then to the plenary during April and May to evaluate and gain feedback on Water Forum Agreement progress over the past five years. At this time stakeholders were also asked for ideas and priorities for the future (focused on the next five years).

This process has also been informed by each annual report that has been produced, in addition to various grant applications and award applications over the past five years, lists of water projects, planning documents and studies, and other items. In addition, a workshop was held in 2004 to assist Buzz Weisenfeld (a colleague of the CSUS Center for Collaborative Policy) in conducting his thesis research. This workshop examined the outcomes of the Water Forum. That discussion was also integrated in this report.

This report has been designed to give the public a snapshot of what the WFSE accomplishments have been over the five years, and how stakeholders view progress on implementation. It is organized around the seven elements of the WFA and includes results of the stakeholder survey.

It is essential to note that the WFSE is not claiming "credit" for all projects, plans or studies listed. The real credit goes to the stakeholders; each individual organization or group of organizations that made things happen. But, the projects, plans, studies and processes noted here are part of the Water Forum Agreement and either initiated, influenced or completed by WFSE members.

Survey Results at a Glance:

- Approximately 55 percent of WF stakeholders responded
- Top three priorities for future work cited were:
 1. Completion of flow standard
 2. Water conservation
 3. Groundwater management (including addressing contamination)
- Over 95 percent of respondents indicated support for continuing practice of addressing "changed conditions"
- 80 percent of respondents rated overall evaluation of implementation of the WFA as good or better
- 76 percent of the respondents said WFSE is meeting the needs of their interest group/organization
- Most successful actions: progress toward agreement on a flow standard
- Least successful actions: delays in getting a flow standard approved

What are your top three priorities for future work tasks for the Water Forum over the next five years?

- 1 Completion of flow standard
- 2 Water conservation
- 3 Groundwater management (including addressing contamination)

1. Increased Surface Water Diversions

Increased diversions will be needed in the region even with active conservation programs and the recommended sustainable use of groundwater that are also part of the Water Forum Agreement. The Agreement outlines agreed-to diversions for each supplier and the facilities needed to divert, treat and distribute this water.

City of Folsom

- Completed expansion of water treatment plant to 25 million gallons per day (mgd)
- Completed expansion of diversion facility at Folsom Reservoir
- Completed relocation and enlargement of raw water conveyance pipeline
- Approval of Environmental Impact Statement/ Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) for Public Law (PL) 101-514 (Fazio water) delivery of Central Valley Project (CVP) contract water
- Completed water transfer of 5,000 acre-feet (AF) from Arden Cordova Water Service (now Golden State Water Company)

City of Roseville

- Completed expansion of water treatment to 60 mgd
- Completed major pipeline infrastructure
- Completed raw water conveyance pipeline
- Completed expansion of diversion facility at Folsom Reservoir
- Completed reclaimed water treatment plant construction

San Juan Water District Consortium

- Completed raw water conveyance pipeline
- Completed expansion of diversion facility at Folsom Reservoir
- Approval of EIS/EIR for Fazio water delivery of CVP contract water
- Approval of change of Place of Use with State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) for using Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) water

Golden State Water Company

Rancho Cordova Customer Service Area (Formerly Arden Cordova Water Service)

- Entered into interim replacement water supply agreement with Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD)
- Completed water transfer of 5,000 AF to City of Folsom

Sacramento Suburban Water District (SSWD)

- Approval of change of Place of Use with SWRCB for using PCWA water
- Entered into surface water contract with City of Sacramento for the Arcade service area

Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD)

- Completed phase I of the Cosumnes Power Plant
- Completed environmental documentation and received approval for assignment of 30,000 AF of CVP Contract water to the Sacramento County Water Agency (SCWA)
- Entered into interim replacement water supply agreement with Southern California Water Company (now Golden State Water Company) for its Arden Cordova Water Service area.

Placer County Water Agency

- American River Pump Station at the Auburn Canyon under construction
- Completed SSWD water contract
- Approval of change of Place of Use with SWRCB for use of PCWA water within Sacramento County

City of Sacramento

- ◆ Obtained approval of diversion point for American River water at the Sacramento River diversion facility
- ◆ Entered into water wheeling agreement with SCWA
- ◆ Entered into surface water contract with SSWD for the SSWD Arcade service area
- ◆ Sacramento River Water Treatment Plant Upgrade completed
- ◆ New diversion structure and fish screens for Sacramento River water completed
- ◆ New diversion structure and fish screens for American River water completed
- ◆ Work to double the size of the E.A. Fairbairn intake facility on the American River completed in 2003. The capacity of the Fairbairn Water Treatment Plant was also doubled in size and completed in 2005.
- ◆ Partnered with the Sacramento County Water Agency and East Bay Municipal Utility District to form the Freeport Regional Water Authority to provide Sacramento River water supply.

California-American Water Company

- ◆ Approval of change of Place of Use with SWRCB for using PCWA water in the Lincoln Oaks/Royal Oaks Service Areas within Sacramento County

Sacramento County Water Agency

- ◆ Entered into water wheeling agreement with City of Sacramento
- ◆ Partnered with East Bay Municipal Utility District and the City of Sacramento to form the Freeport Regional Water Authority to provide a Sacramento River water supply
- ◆ Received approval for transfer of 30,000 AF of CVP Contract water from SMUD
- ◆ Freeport Regional Water Project approved
- ◆ Zone 40 Water Supply Master Plan and FEIR approved

- ◆ Received approval for agreement with The Nature Conservancy and Southeast Sacramento County Agricultural Water Authority (SSCAWA)

Carmichael Water District

- ◆ Completed Phase I of new Water Treatment Plant
- ◆ Completed diversion site modifications, pump station and piping

2. Actions to Meet Customers' Needs While Reducing Diversion Impacts in Drier Years

To avoid impacts to the American River during dry water years, purveyors have agreed to reduce their surface water diversions and use alternative supplies, such as groundwater, or increase conservation to meet their customers' needs.

- ◆ For the upstream diversion purveyors, the drier year reduction would be a decreasing amount from their 2030 diversion level to a lesser amount in proportion to the unimpaired inflow into Folsom Reservoir from 950,000 acre-feet to 400,000 acre-feet.

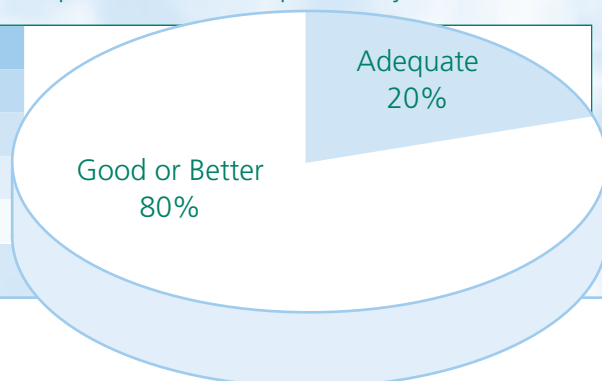
Regional Water Authority (RWA)

- ◆ In 1998, water purveyors in southern Placer County and northern Sacramento County formed the American River Basin Cooperating Agencies (ARBCA) and completed the Regional Water Master Plan (RWMP) in late 2003.

Figure 1

What is your overall evaluation of how well the Water Forum Agreement has been implemented in the past five years?

%	Response
12	Exceptional
68	Good
20	Adequate
0	Poor



Agreed Upon Surface Water Diversion Amounts & 2001 – 2003 Diversion Amounts

This table shows the historic maximum amount of water diverted from the American River, using 1995 as the baseline. It also shows the amount of water that will be annually diverted by the year 2030, depending on the type of water year and the actual amounts diverted in 2001, 2002, and 2003.

Purveyor	1995 Baseline	2030 Diversion (wet/avg years)	2030 Diversion (drier years)	2030 Diversion (driest years)	2001 Diversion (actual)	2002 Diversion (actual)	2003 Diversion (actual)
American River Diversions							
Folsom	20,000	34,000	34,000-22,000	20,000	21,350	21,351	23,404
Roseville	19,800	54,900	54,900-39,800	39,800	26,500	29,852	29,967
San Juan Consor- tium	54,200	82,200	82,200-54,200	54,200	57,527	52,795	53,698
ACWS	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	4,600	5,765	7,027
SSWD Northridge Service Area	0	29,000	0	0	15,520	16,933	15,340
SSWD Arcade Service Area	0	26,040	0	0	0	796	~710
South County Ag	0	35,000	0	0	0	0	0
SMUD	15,000	30,000	30,000-15,000	15,000	13,700	14,194	19,731 (in- cludes 5,000 transferred to Southern California Water Co.)
PCWA	8,500	35,500	35,500	35,500	0	22,846	22,866
Carmichael W D	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	5,985	8,507	9,308
City of Sacramento	50,000	310 cfs	90,000	50,000	56,600	61,809	~60,463

Purveyor	1995 Baseline	2030 Diversion (wet/ave years)	2030 Diversion (drier years)	2030 Diversion (driest years)	2001 Diversion (actual)	2002 Diversion (actual)	2003 Diversion (actual)
Sacramento River Diversions							
PCWA	35,500	35,500	35,500	35,500	0	0	0
City of Sacramento	45,000	290 cfs	290 cfs	290 cfs	46,000	52,212	~51,076
County of Sacramento	0	up to 78,000	up to 78,000	up to 78,000	2,500	4,355	4,763
Natomas Central Mutual	53,000	45,600	45,600	45,600	50,000	88,120	77,146 (direct diversions 7,923 (dry year trans- fer to DWR)

- ◆ The objective of the RWMP is to develop equitable, cost-effective strategies for enhancing water supply reliability and operational flexibility for water users who rely on Folsom Lake, the lower American River, and the connected groundwater basin.
- ◆ RWA was formed in 2001 to provide a formal structure for ongoing regional collaboration. It is currently implementing an integrated regional water management plan that builds on the RWMP and includes the regional conjunctive use program envisioned in the Water Forum Agreement. RWA received a \$22 million grant from the California Department of Water Resources in 2002 to help implement 12 projects as part of the American River Basin Regional conjunctive Use Program. Half of the projects have been completed.
- ◆ The Sacramento Groundwater Authority was formed in August 1998 to ensure sustainable yield and protect the Sacramento north area groundwater basin.

Sacramento County Water Agency

- ◆ The Sacramento County Water Agency (SCWA) developed a Water Supply Master Plan (WSMP) for Zone 40 in 1987. The plan was updated in June 1995 and again in 2005. The WSMP proposes the conjunctive use of local groundwater and imported surface water to meet its customers' needs in wet and dry years.
- ◆ The Freeport Regional Water Authority (FRWA) comprised of SCWA, the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) and the City of Sacramento has received all required approvals for the Freeport Regional Water Project on the Sacramento River. The project will provide surface water to Sacramento County's Zone 40 to meet future water needs in the central Sacramento County area as well as a dry year supply for EBMUD. Completion of the project is expected in 2010.

City of Sacramento

- ◆ In early 2004, the City completed a new water intake facility on the Sacramento River. The City also completed additional treatment capacity and improvements to its existing water treatment facility at the Sacramento River Treatment Plant.

- ◆ These new and improved facilities will contribute to flexibility in Sacramento's water diversions. By switching to the Sacramento River during dry years, the City will reduce its use of American River water.

3. Improved Pattern of Fishery Flow Releases from Folsom Reservoir

To achieve the Water Forum's coequal objective of preserving the fishery, wildlife, recreational and aesthetic values of the Lower American River, flow releases and water temperatures from Folsom Reservoir must more closely match the needs of anadromous fish, particularly fall run Chinook salmon and steelhead trout.

- ◆ Between 2001 and 2003, a series of meetings with technical and policy representatives of the USBR and state and federal fish resource agencies on an improved flow standard took place. A series of meetings were also conducted with Water Forum caucuses regarding development of a draft flow standard.
- ◆ A draft flow management standard (FMS) was developed in the fall of 2003. The FMS includes a recommended flow regime, description of a river management group, and recommendations for monitoring, assessment and reporting. These elements are described in a report titled "Draft Policy Document." The report has been widely distributed to state and federal governmental water and biological resource agencies and is available on the Water Forum website, www.waterforum.org.
- ◆ A joint United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) / Water Forum public workshop was held on the FMS in February 2004.
- ◆ The water and business caucuses of the Water Forum elevated the flow standard as their number one priority during the spring 2005 "Cap to Cap" lobbying trip to Washington DC, which was sponsored by the Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce.
- ◆ A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Department of Interior (USBR and United States Fish and Wildlife Service) and the Water Forum was signed in October 2004. The MOU describes a process and schedule for com-

pleting development of the FMS resulting in its submittal to the SWRCB in September 2005.

- ◆ In September 2005, the Water Forum, USBR, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reached agreement on the flow regime portion of the proposed FMS. The other two elements of the FMS (river management group and monitoring) will be developed in cooperation with the National Marine Fisheries Service and the California Department of Fish and Game by the end of 2005. The overall FMS will be presented to the State Water Resources Control Board for approval in 2006.

4. Lower American River Habitat Management Element (HME)

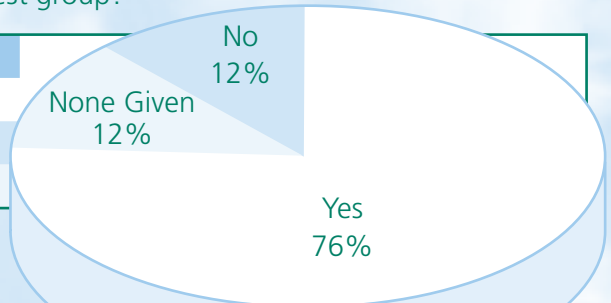
The HME is intended as a means of preserving the fishery, wildlife, recreational and aesthetic values of the LAR, one of the two co-equal objectives of the Water Forum Agreement. It is primarily funded by the city and county of Sacramento. The County's initial base contribution was \$250,000 and the City's was \$125,000. These amounts are adjusted annually for inflation. The County's portion comes from Zone 13 funds. The HME is being implemented through the Fisheries and In-Stream Habitat Plan (FISH Plan) and the Recreation Plan. In December 2001 over 30 government, public interest and environmental organizations endorsed both plans as part of the River Corridor Management Plan. In 2002, the Water Forum Successor Effort accepted the FISH and Recreation plans as implementation agents for the HME. Major HME accomplishments include:

- ◆ In April 2005, released the first "State of the River" report, which reviews the health of the lower American River ecosystem
- ◆ Continued funding to develop a flow standard for the lower American River (LAR)
- ◆ Sponsorship of the 2003 American River Science Conference and the 2005 American River Watershed Science and Management Conference
- ◆ Sponsorship of American River Parkway Foundation efforts to improve the LAR Parkway
- ◆ Sponsorship and participation in LAR flow fluctuation workshop
- ◆ Funding for annual LAR Chinook salmon escapement surveys
- ◆ Funding for monitoring LAR Chinook salmon spawning gravel restoration sites
- ◆ Funding for a study to assess over-summering steelhead in the LAR
- ◆ Development of a model to assess actions that would result in water temperature reductions at Lake Nimbus. Funding provided through a \$466,000 grant from the California Bay-Delta Authority Ecosystem Restoration Program
- ◆ Financial support of the update process for the American River Parkway Plan.
- ◆ The Water Forum sponsored a pilot project to construct an escape route for juvenile Chinook salmon and steelhead stranded by fluctuating flows in the American River. Volunteers dug a channel from an isolation pool near Sunrise Boulevard Bridge to the main river channel. The project took place in September 2005 and was a partnership with other state and local agencies. If the project proves successful it will be replicated in other parts of the river.

Figure 2

Is the Water Forum Successor Effort meeting the needs of your organization / interest group?

%	Response
76	Yes
12	No
12	None Given



5. Water Conservation

The Water Conservation Element of the Agreement helps meet the region's water supply needs by minimizing the need for increased groundwater pumping and increased use of surface water, including diversions from the American River. Each water supplier in the region committed to implementing a comprehensive water conservation plan.

Best Management Practices

The foundation of the Water Conservation Element includes meter retrofits (BMP 4) and conservation pricing (BMP 11). Through these best management practices, or BMPs, water users know how much water they are using and receive accurate economic signals to encourage the use of water in the most efficient manner possible. In the WFA the rate of residential meter retrofits varies for each purveyor. Purveyors agreed to retrofit 85 to 90 percent of non-residential customers within ten years. As of 2004, 11 of 15 reporting agencies had completed their non-residential meter retrofit programs.

- ◆ In 2004 stakeholders reached agreement on a best management practice for Placer County Water Agency's raw water supply.

Regional Water Authority

The RWA's Water Efficiency Program is a large-scale effort designed to help participating agencies fulfill commitments to implement their Water Forum water conservation plans. The program provides services with oversight via an advisory committee. Through this regional effort, purveyors are better able to manage BMP implementation projects through coordination and training of staff, regional marketing of services to customers and leveraging resources. Program components include regional public outreach and school education programs, large landscape irrigation efficiency and leak detection programs, and partnerships with other agencies and organizations for toilet replacement rebates and distribution of water-efficiency products targeting the restaurant and food service industry.

Annual Reporting

Each year water purveyors report on the implementation of their water conservation plans. The Water Forum reviews this implementation in an annual report. These reports can be viewed on the Water Forum website, www.waterforum.org.

- ◆ Of the 15 water purveyors who annually report on water conservation element progress, all are fully implementing the following BMPs: water waste prohibition, school education, public information, and water conservation staff.
- ◆ Following the second year of implementation, which was January 2002 – December 2003, the WFSE reported that about 40 percent of the agencies would most likely have difficulty meeting their Year-Four objectives without considerable effort going toward an increase in programs. The report noted that six of the 15 agencies would need to step up conservation efforts in order to meet their goals while the remaining nine appeared to be on track for full implementation by 2004.
- ◆ In 2003 staff met with conservation staff and management of those six agencies identified as unlikely to meet their goals. In addition, Water Forum staff continued to work with RWA staff to assist RWA in designing its programs that would most help Water Forum signatories achieve their water conservation goals. These meetings revealed that most agencies would probably show significant progress in 2003.
- ◆ The Year-Three report showed significant progress was made on implementation of the following BMPs:
 - BMP 5 (Large Landscape Audits) – 128 large landscape audits performed compared to only 24 in the first year of implementation
 - BMP 9 (Commercial and Industrial (CI) Water Conservation - The Regional Water Authority's "Rinse and Save" program contributed to Water Forum water purveyors completing 328 CI water audits, which was over seven times as many audits in that category as reported in 2002.

- o Implementation of BMP 2 (Plumbing Retrofits) is ahead of schedule; with purveyors collectively distributing almost 11,000 retrofit kits in 2003.
- ◆ Implementation of other BMPs remains problematic. For example, BMP 16 (Ultra Low Flush Toilet Replacements) continues to present challenges in implementation with only 110 toilets distributed by Water Forum purveyors in 2003.

Landscape Water Conservation

In 2004, the Water Forum convened a regional landscape task force as called for in BMPs 6 and 12. The task force reviewed water efficient landscape ordinances for conformance with State law and their implementation throughout the region. The goal of the task force was to identify what, if any, obstacles exist in implementation of these ordinances and to recommend solutions to achieve implementation.

- ◆ A draft model ordinance and the task force's recommendations to strengthen implementation of local ordinances were forwarded to the Water Forum Water Conservation Negotiation Team in late 2005 for consideration. The next step is for recommendations to be considered by the WFSE.

Updating Plans

In 2004 WFSE stakeholders began the process of updating water conservation plans with each water purveyor, as called for in the Water Forum Agreement. The goal of the update process is to help purveyors design conservation programs that are more suitable to their needs, based on their experiences during the ramp-up period, while continuing to achieve the conservation goals originally established in the Water Forum Agreement.

6. Groundwater Management

Over half of the water used in the Sacramento region comes from groundwater supplies. Over-pumping in some areas has lowered the water table as much as 90 feet, and some wells have been closed because of contamination. The Water Forum Agreement calls for a groundwater management plan to protect this valuable resource. The ground-

water management element includes monitoring the amount of water withdrawn from the groundwater basin and the planned use of surface water in conjunction with groundwater. Three sub-basins characterize the groundwater basin – each with unique characteristics and circumstances, requiring a management plan or process appropriate to the sub-basin's needs and conditions.

North Area

In 1998, cities and water purveyors banded together to form the Sacramento North Area Groundwater Management Authority (SNAGMA) to protect the groundwater basin in Sacramento County north of the American River. In 2001, the organization was renamed the Sacramento Groundwater Authority (SGA). SGA adopted a Groundwater Management Plan (GMP) for the management of the northern Sacramento County groundwater basin on December 11, 2003. The plan, which meets requirements specified in recent legislation, lays out five management objectives for the basin and includes several components aimed at monitoring and managing groundwater quality and levels.

- ◆ Since adoption of the plan, SGA has secured grant funding to construct a regional monitoring well network and to update the groundwater model for the basin, including model grid and data refinement, time interval and model calibration.
- ◆ In February 2004, SGA completed a State of the Basin Report for the year 2002 to improve the understanding of the basin conditions.
- ◆ SGA took the lead in negotiating with regulators over groundwater cleanup activities impacting supplies north of the American River.

Central Area

The Central Sacramento County Groundwater Forum (CSCGF) began February 26, 2002. Thirty representatives from six interest groups are participating in the negotiations.

- The CSCGF completed an eight-month Education Phase in October 2002.
- Negotiations for groundwater management began in November 2002.
- Agreements-in-Principle on groundwater contamination, groundwater management, cost sharing and Governance were developed in 2003, and the “Early Review and Authorization to Proceed” (ERAP) document was released in early 2004.
- In December 2004, a task force was formed in order to complete a GMP for the entire Central Basin.
- Following completion of the GMP, the CSCGF will continue working on a governance entity for implementation of the plan.
- The Sacramento County Water Agency (SCWA) completed a groundwater management plan for its Zone 40 area which comprises most of the Central Basin. This plan contains basin management objectives, which will be incorporated into the Central Basin plan.
- The County of Sacramento and SCWA completed negotiations with Aerojet and Boenig to allow for beneficial reuse of the remediated water generated by groundwater contamination cleanup activity. This allows for no net loss of groundwater supplies to the Central Basin.

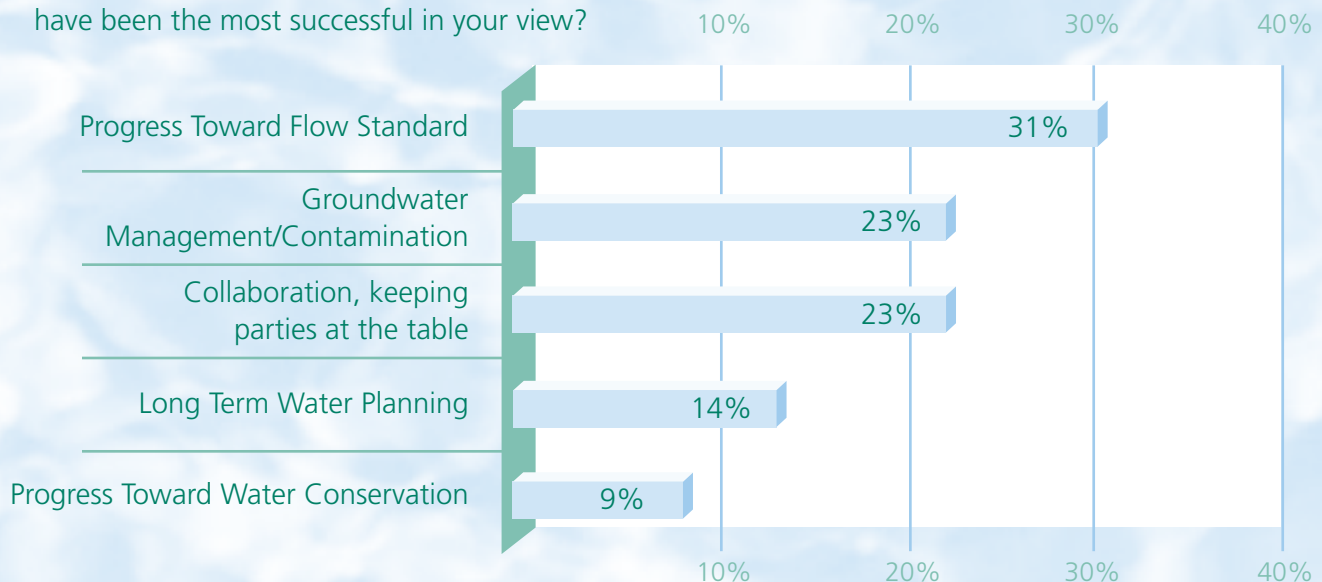
South (Galt) Area

The Clay Water District, Galt Irrigation District and the Omochumne-Hartnell Water District entered into a Joint Powers Agreement in 1997 and developed a coordinated GMP for the South Area. In June 2002, the districts modified their organization to a joint powers authority, the Southeast Sacramento County Agricultural Water Authority (SSCAWA), and adopted a new GMP in December 2002.

- Activities of the SSCAWA include monitoring of selected wells in the area, discussions with SMUD and the USBR regarding transfer of a portion of SMUD’s CVP contract, and discussions with East Bay Municipal Utilities District and Sacramento County on conjunctive use opportunities.
- The SSCAWA is responsible for administering and managing a “restoration study” on the lower Cosumnes and Mokelumne river basins including groundwater recharge. The study is funded through the California Bay-Delta Authority.

Figure 3

What specific actions or activities of the Water Forum Successor Effort have been the most successful in your view?



7. Water Forum Successor Effort

The WFSE is charged with implementing the Water Forum Agreement.

- ◆ The Water Forum established a coordinating committee as a sounding board and to provide guidance to staff on issues and concerns as they arise. The responsibility of the coordinating committee is to develop recommendations on the work plan, priorities for implementing the work plan, and the budget. The coordinating committee consists of the cost-sharing partners and representatives from the business, environmental and public caucuses. The committee meets monthly.
- ◆ The WFSE meets six times a year as a plenary, and as needed for various caucus or sidebar conversations. This venue gives stakeholders the opportunity to monitor and respond to issues affecting their interest groups.

Stakeholders

- ◆ The Water Forum sponsored an orientation in 2002 for new stakeholder representatives to ensure a smooth transition.
- ◆ In 2003 and 2004 the WFSE convened stakeholders to provide support for the Freeport Regional Water Project.
- ◆ A purveyor specific agreement with the Sacramento Suburban Water District was completed in 2003, following the merging of the former Northridge and Arcade water districts.

- ◆ In 2004, the WFSE welcomed the Florin Resource Conservation District (Elk Grove Water Service) as a member of the Water Forum with a Procedural Agreement.

Outreach

- ◆ The WFSE continues to be committed to community outreach as a means for maintaining awareness about our regional water issues and how the Water Forum Agreement is helping achieve the two coequal objectives. Water Forum staff have participated in a number of activities to further that objective, including representation at the annual Creek Week and Salmon Festival events, as well as numerous papers and speeches to various local, state and federal organizations.
- ◆ Water Forum staff cultivates strong relationships with media representatives in order to facilitate communication between Water Forum signatories and various media outlets.

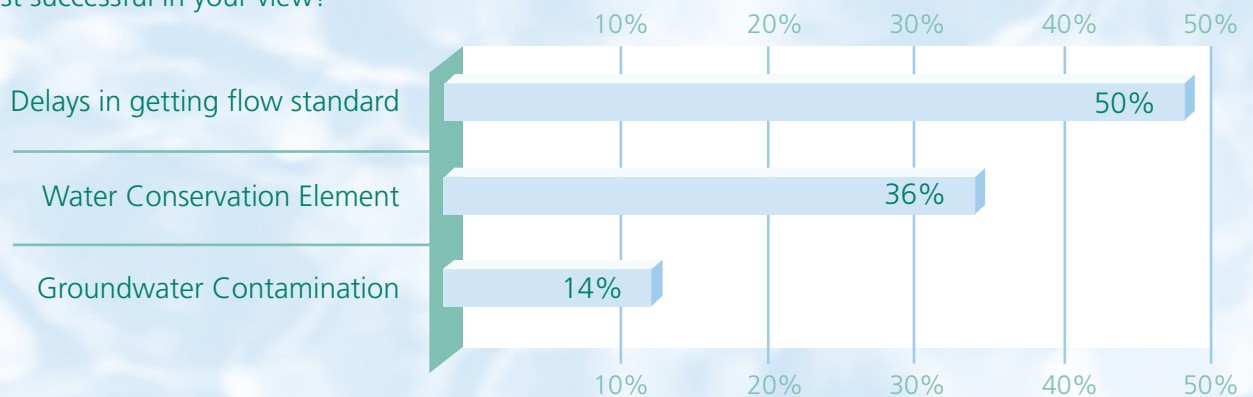
Awards

The Water Forum has received the following awards since the signing of the Agreement:

- ◆ 2004 Harvard University Kennedy School of Government "Top 50" Programs in the Innovations In American Government competition
- ◆ 2003 State of California Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Award
- ◆ 2001 League of California Cities Helen Putnam Award for Excellence

Figure 4

What specific actions or activities of the WFSE have been the least successful in your view?



- ◆ 2000 Association of California Water Agencies Clair A. Hill Water Agency Award
- ◆ 2000 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 9 Outstanding Environmental Achievement Award

Changing Conditions

The WFA directs the Water Forum Successor Effort to respond to changing conditions that would undermine the long-term viability of the WFA if not resolved. Recent Water Forum activities brought about by changing conditions include:

- ◆ Worked with the Sacramento Groundwater Authority to bring attention to the threat of groundwater contamination and its potential effect on the WFA,
- ◆ Conducted negotiations involving interests in the Cosumnes River corridor (see Other Important Agreements on page 12),
- ◆ Worked with the City of Folsom in its efforts to require the installation and use of water meters within the City limits,
- ◆ Conducted negotiations among environmental and water purveyor interests over water supply for new development in west Roseville,
- ◆ Conducted negotiations to address conflicting interests as they related to water supply resource planning for the Sunrise Douglas development in the City of Rancho Cordova.

Other Important Agreements

Folsom Reservoir Recreation

Because the Water Forum recognizes Folsom as an important resource, the signatories of the Agreement have committed to working with elected officials, California Department of Parks and Recreation, and other agencies that have an interest in the reservoir to obtain at least \$3 million of new funding for improvements to Folsom Reservoir recreation facilities.

- ◆ As part of the PCWA Pump Station Project, PCWA will receive approximately \$10 million through a combination of state and federal appropriations to reconstruct the American River near Auburn to allow the return of safe recreation purposes on the North Fork of the River.
- ◆ The project will also include landside recreation improvements to trails, vehicle access and parking improvements and construction of a new pedestrian bridge across the river.



Thank You

The Water Forum Successor Effort recognizes the dedicated efforts of the Sacramento State Center for Collaborative Policy. The Center's mediators have helped Water Forum stakeholders forge common ground on difficult policy issues and create a culture of joint problem-solving and mutual respect, beginning with the inception of the Water Forum in 1993 and on through to today. In particular, the following Center staff are recognized: Susan Sherry, Jeff Loux, and Larry Norton. For more information on the Center for Collaborative Policy, visit www.csus.edu/ccp.

Cosumnes River Flows Pilot Project

In 2005 the Water Forum mediated discussions among the Sacramento County Water Agency, The Nature Conservancy and the Southeast Sacramento County Agricultural Water Authority in an effort to meet the parties' interests surrounding the SCWA Zone 40 Water Supply Master Plan. These discussions resulted in a significant agreement that will benefit habitat in the Cosumnes River corridor. The agreement provides for a multi-year pilot project to determine the viability of enhancing flows and preserving riparian habitat through a surface water-groundwater recharge program.

Under the agreement, the SCWA will provide 5,000 acre-feet of water in the fall to pre-wet the Cosumnes River channel and to provide for some groundwater recharge. Scientists hope this will allow the upstream migration of salmon to occur earlier, something that has been pushed back as late as January in recent years due to declining groundwater levels. In October 2005 the USBR delivered 5,000 acre-feet of water via the Folsom South Canal to the Cosumnes. In ensuing years SCWA will use reclaimed water.

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Signatories to the Water Forum Agreement

- ◆ AKT Development
- ◆ Associated General Contractors
- ◆ Building Industry Association of Superior California
- ◆ Carmichael Water District
- ◆ California American Water Company
- ◆ Citrus Heights Water District
- ◆ Clay Water District
- ◆ County of Sacramento
- ◆ Del Paso Manor Water District
- ◆ El Dorado County Water Agency
- ◆ El Dorado Irrigation District
- ◆ Environmental Council of Sacramento
- ◆ Fair Oaks Water District
- ◆ Florin County Water District
- ◆ City of Folsom
- ◆ Friends of the River
- ◆ Galt Irrigation District
- ◆ Georgetown Divide Public Utility District
- ◆ Golden State Water Company
- ◆ League of Women Voters of Sacramento
- ◆ Natomas Central Mutual Water Company
- ◆ Omochumne-Hartnell Water District
- ◆ Orange Vale Water Company
- ◆ Placer County Water Agency
- ◆ Rancho Murieta Community Services District
- ◆ Regional Water Authority
- ◆ Rio Linda/Elverta Community Water District
- ◆ City of Roseville
- ◆ City of Sacramento
- ◆ Sacramento Association of Realtors
- ◆ Sacramento County Alliance of Neighborhoods
- ◆ Sacramento County Farm Bureau
- ◆ Sacramento County Taxpayers League
- ◆ Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce
- ◆ Sacramento Municipal Utility District
- ◆ Sacramento-Sierra Building & Construction Trades Council
- ◆ Sacramento Suburban Water District
- ◆ San Juan Water District
- ◆ Save the American River Association Inc.
- ◆ Sierra Club-Mother Lode Chapter